

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

the first base module and the at least one media module permits a user to access the at least one media module and subsequently receive the media stream.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of announcing a description of one or more of a plurality of media stream connections for a media session over a communication network, the method using a modular description system which is capable of providing a distributed announcement containing links available to a user to other portions of the announcement which have not yet been transmitted, said method comprising:

generating a first base module having a first data structure comprising user oriented data relevant to said plurality of media stream connections of the media session;

~~generating at least one~~ a plurality of media module modules each having a second data structure and comprising media oriented data necessary for a user to receive a respective media stream of said plurality of media ~~streams~~ stream connections of the media session, said data including a network address for the respective stream connection;

~~providing a link~~ links between the first base module and the ~~at least one media module~~ modules; and,

announcing the media session by making at least the first base module available to users who are potential recipients of the media session,

wherein the link between the first base module and the ~~at least one media modules~~ module permits a user to ~~access~~ request the at least one media module and wherein said method includes, upon request from a user for one of said linked media modules, sending the requested media module to the requesting user, said user utilizing the stream address contained in said linked media module to subsequently receive the media stream.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
generating a second base module, the second base module containing user orientated data relating to a sub-session of the media session;
linking the second base module to the first base module; and,
linking said at least one media module to the second base module.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
generating at least one options module having a third data structure comprising data related to service level criteria required to participate in the media session; and,
linking each options module to a respective base module.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 3, in which the data contained in the options module relates to a quality of service policy to be used by the media session or a part thereof.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, in which the data contained in the options module relates to a security system to be used by the media session or a part thereof.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, in which the data contained in the options module relates to a charging system to be used by the media session or a part thereof.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein one or more media module(s) comprise data necessary for a user to receive a layered media stream of a respective media session; and said method further comprises the step of linking each media module to one or more respective options module(s) containing data relating to a layered mechanism of the respective layered media stream necessary for a party to participate in the layered media stream.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, in which the data contained in a media module includes data necessary for a user to receive or transmit data or both receive and transmit for inclusion in the media session.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, in which the media session is announced by transmitting all of the constituent modules of the session description.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, in which the media session is announced by transmitting only some of the constituent modules of the session description, with the remaining modules of the session description being subsequently accessible by a user using one or more links provided in the modules transmitted.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 10, in which the remaining modules of the session description are held on one or more servers and the one or more links to the remaining modules are in the form of URI pointers.

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, in which modules of the session description contain links to modules which are generated subsequent to the announcement.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium containing computer readable data which, when utilized by an executing computer program, defines at least a part of a description of one or more of a plurality of media stream connections for a media session over a communication network, the description comprising:

a first base module having at first data structure comprising user oriented data relevant to said plurality of media stream connections of the media session;

a plurality of at least one media modules each ~~module~~ having a second data structure and comprising media oriented data necessary for a user to receive a

respective media stream of said plurality of media ~~stream streams~~ connections of the media session, said data including a network address for the respective stream connection;

a link between the first base module and the ~~at least one media~~ modules;
module;

wherein the link permits a user to request ~~access the~~ at least one media module and subsequently receive the media stream.